County of Los Angeles – Department of Public Health Alcohol and Drug Program Administration

Contract Services and Quality Assurance

Prevention Provider Meeting Responses October 8, 2009

1. Question: How will ADPA assist prevention specialist and staff with the necessary training and professional development to better understand how to provide quality prevention services?

Response: ADPA will continue to coordinate training sessions for prevention funded programs. The Center for Applied Solutions and Research (CARS) offers no cost training and technical assistance on evidence-based prevention strategies that can assist organizations with enhancing prevention work. Providers should take advantage of this opportunity. CARS website: http://www.cars-rp.org/services/consultation.php

Question: Our program contract specifies three outside events per fiscal year. Our city says we can only have two outside events. How do we fulfill contract? Do we need city permits?

Response: Please check your contract. Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Service (AODPS) Contracts do not require programs to do three outside events per fiscal year.

3. Question: What is the evaluation process in selecting re-bid contractors?

Response: The Evaluation Committee will be selected by the Director or his authorized designee and shall consist of individuals who are knowledgeable about prevention services. The committee will evaluate each proposal based on the specific criteria listed in the RFP.

4. Question: What is going to be considered when selecting prevention proposals?

Response: The selection criteria will include a point system based on the RFP design as well as program history, past accomplishments, and proposed evidence-based program strategies that can demonstrate effectiveness and enhance the quality of life for targeted communities.

Question: How is Public Health going to ensure the integrity of prevention services in light of heavier concentration on treatment services?

Response: Prevention is a crucial element of the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) continuum of care. ADPA intends to strengthen its prevention system of services by designing an RFP that can respond to and ensure the integrity of prevention services.

Question: How is ADPA going to train staff to understand terms, and concepts so as to not simply throw terms and concepts or data around without hilly understanding?

Response: See response number one.

7. Question: When is the exact due date/month for the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) due?

Response: ADPA is not requiring prevention programs to submit their SPF this coming fiscal year.

8. Question: For the upcoming funding cycle do you anticipate that ADPA will have the same or less funds for the upcoming funding cycle?

Response: Funding amounts have not been determined at this time.

9. Question: How long will we have to prepare for the RFP?

Response: Approximately 4-6 weeks.

10. Question: Since the prevention and Community Prevention and Recovery Programs (CPRP) have been merged does that mean that those of us who had both contracts should not expect the same level of funding? (Ex: If we had \$200k from community prevention and \$100k from CPRP-will we be able to bid for \$300k).

Response: The RFP will specify the amount of funding available for a contracted service. All eligible agencies will be able to submit a proposal up to this funding amount.

11. *Question:* Is there a maximum amount per contract?

Response: Refer to response number ten.

12. Question: How will ADPA ensure that organizations have a track record of providing prevention services?

Response: Refer to response number four.

13. *Question:* Does prevention staff need to be state certified to provide the services?

Response: No. Prevention is funded with the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funds to conduct primary prevention services. Therefore, prevention programs do not need to be certified.

14. Question: Can future Prevention Roundtable meetings be held/hosted within different SPA's?

Response: Yes.

15. Question: Can SPA's collaborate for environmental work? If they can what are the boundaries?

Response: Yes. It is especially encouraged for the programs within the regions to partner in order to change negative community environments that contribute to alcohol and other drug and establish or enforce existing policies that can create safer communities.

16. Question: Will there be a possible break between current funding and RFP awards? Or will there be an attempt to minimize gaps in funding/services?

Response: Every effort will be made to minimize gaps in funding/services.

17. *Question:* There was a great deal of discussion at our meeting about research the County has looked at around prevention. Can these sources be shared?

Responses: The Service Planning Area (SPA) profiles were shared at the October 8th meeting.

18. *Question:* What prompted the shift from the "protractor model" to the full continuum of services?

Response: Both are the same. The only difference is the full continuum (circle) illustrates how prevention, treatment and recovery can work as a whole.

19. Question: What is the time-line of announcing the successful bidders of the RFP of Spring of 2010?

Response: At this time it is not certain. ADPA will send out formal notices once the selections have been made.

20. Question: Prior to the merge of ADPS and CPRP to AODPS, many providers developed two separate work plans. Under the new contract will these work plans be merged into one?

Response: Yes, if services are provided at the same site. Each site should have its own unique work plan that reflects specific AOD needs within the community or populations they serve at that site.

21. *Question:* Proposition 36 was eliminated by government. From my understanding Proposition 36 allowed drug offenders to enter treatment rather than be put in jail. How is/was Proposition 36 different from PC1000/DEJ?

Response: The Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act (SACPA) - also known as Proposition 36 is a sentencing law and was not eliminated. The funding for SACPA was eliminated. The law remains in effect and SACPA is now considered an unfunded mandate.

Proposition 36 and PC1000 are sentencing laws where eligibility is determined by the Bench Officer in concert with the District Attorney and Public Defenders on each individual case.

Proposition 36 Applies to non-violent drug possession/use offenses only and excludes sales or anyone with prior violent felony convictions.

PC 1000 programs are intended to develop awareness of the use and misuse of mindand-mood-altering drugs, to discourage substance use and abuse, and to prevent future problems such as arrest and incarceration.

22. *Question:* Will all new organizations be subject to design a RFP for public funds?

Response: All eligible agencies will be able to submit a proposal for prevention funding.